

00862.003186.1

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: I. Sherali
MASAMI KATO)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2621
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned)	
	:	
Filed: Concurrently Herewith)	
	:	
For: IMAGE PROCESSING)	
APPARATUS AND METHOD	:	November 17, 2003

**This application is a division under 37 C.F.R
§ 1.53 (b) of Application No. 09/466,907.**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CLAIM TO PRIORITY

Sir:

Applicant hereby claims priority under the International Convention and all rights to which they are entitled under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based upon the following Japanese Priority Application:

Japan 10-371479, filed December 25, 1998.

A certified copy of the foregoing document was provided to the Patent Office in parent Application No. 09/466,907 and therefore, a copy is not being provided again.

Applicant also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to parent Application No. 09/466,907, filed on December 20, 1999. A preliminary Amendment is being filed concurrently herewith to amend the specification in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 to include a specific reference to the parent application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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